

In The Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously presented) A stylus for use with a touch screen having a digitizer, said stylus comprising:
  - an elastic member;
  - a first end cap tapered to a point and coupled to said elastic member
  - said end cap for interfacing with said digitizer;
  - a second end cap coupled to said elastic member; and
  - a plurality of interlocking mid-segments coupled to said elastic member between said first and second end caps.
2. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 1 wherein said mid-segments are operable to interlock with each other, said first end cap and said second end cap to form a rigid member.
3. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 2 wherein said stylus is operable to become flexible when said first end cap is pulled away from said second end cap to disengage interlocking members of said mid-segments and said first and second end caps.
4. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 1 wherein said elastic member is a spring.

5. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 1 wherein said elastic member covers the outside of the stylus.
6. (original) The stylus as described in Claim 1 wherein said stylus locks together by twisting said first end cap relative to said second end cap.
7. (original) The stylus as described in Claim 1 wherein said plurality of mid-segments are hollow.
8. (original) The stylus as described in Claim 7 wherein said elastic member is a spring and wherein said spring comprises hooks on both ends and wherein said spring is extended within said hollow mid-segments.
9. (Previously presented) A portable electronic device comprising:
  - a processor coupled to a bus;
  - memory coupled to said bus;
  - a touch sensitive screen coupled to said bus; and
  - a stylus comprising:
    - an elastic member;

a first end cap tapered to a point and coupled to said elastic member wherein said first end cap is for interfacing with an electronic digitizer of said portable electronic device;

a second end cap coupled to said elastic member; and

a plurality of hollow interlocking mid-segments coupled to said elastic member between said first and second end caps.

10. (original) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 9 wherein said plurality of mid-segments comprise interlocking members to interlock with each other, said first end cap and said second end cap to form a rigid member.

11. (original) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said stylus becomes flexible when said first end cap is pulled away from said second end cap to disengage said interlocking members.

12. (original) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said elastic member is a spring.

13. (original) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said elastic member covers the outside of the stylus.

14. (original) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said stylus locks together by twisting said first end cap relative to said second end cap.
15. (cancelled) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said plurality of mid-segments are hollow.
16. (currently amended) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 15 ~~9~~ wherein said elastic segment member is a spring comprising hooks on both ends and wherein said ~~spring~~ elastic member is located inside said plurality of hollow interlocking mid-segments.
17. (previously presented) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said stylus can be simultaneously stored along more than one side of said portable electronic device.
18. (original) A portable electronic device as described in Claim 10 wherein said portable electronic device is a PDA (portable electronic assistant).
19. (previously presented) A bendable stylus for use with a miniaturized portable electronic device, said stylus comprising:
- an elastic member;

a first end cap tapered to a point and coupled to said elastic member, said first end cap for interfacing with a digitizer of said portable electronic device;  
a second end cap coupled to said elastic member; and  
a plurality of interlocking mid segments coupled to said elastic member between said first and second end caps.

20. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 19 wherein said plurality of mid segments interlock with each other, said first end cap and said second end cap to form a rigid member.

21. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 20 wherein said stylus becomes flexible when said first end cap is pulled away from said second end cap to disengage said plurality of mid-segments.

22. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 19 wherein said elastic member is a spring.

23. (previously presented) A stylus as described in Claim 19 wherein said elastic member covers the outside of said stylus.

24. (previously presented) A stylus as described in Claim 19 wherein said elastic member is a spring and wherein said spring comprises hooks on both ends and wherein said spring is located inside said plurality of mid-segments.
25. (original) A stylus as described in Claim 19 wherein said elastic member is a clear tube.
26. (previously presented) A stylus as described in Claim 19 wherein one or more of said plurality of mid segments is a different color.